



Brownfields 2004 Grant Fact Sheet

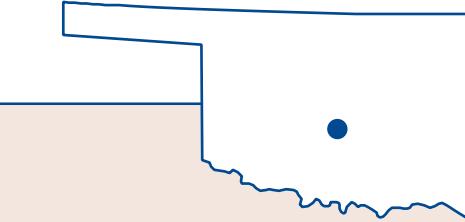
Association of South Central Oklahoma Governments

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, the President signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The Association of South Central Oklahoma Governments (ASCOG) was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant and a revolving loan fund grant. ASCOG represents eight counties in south central Oklahoma with an aggregate population of 271,922. Member counties are Caddo, Comanche, Cotton, Grady, Jefferson, McClain, Stephens, and Tillman Counties. The average unemployment rate for these counties is 5.7 percent, and the poverty rate is 21.5 percent. Minorities comprise 16.6 percent of the population. Drought conditions for the last six years have exacerbated the effects of a declining economy in the area. There are 112 identified brownfields in the region, of which 22 were identified as viable for redevelopment during a previous brownfields inventory. The grants



Assessment Grant

New
2004

\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the Association of South Central Oklahoma Governments (ASCOG) to receive a brownfields assessment grant. Grant funds will be used to perform Phase I assessments at six sites and Phase II assessments at 10 sites in the eight counties represented by ASCOG. Funds will also be used for cleanup planning and community outreach.

Revolving Loan Fund Grant

New
2004

\$1,000,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the Association of South Central Oklahoma Governments (ASCOG) to receive a brownfields revolving loan fund grant. Grant funds will be used to capitalize a revolving loan fund from which ASCOG will provide loans and subgrants for cleanup activities at multiple sites in the eight counties represented by ASCOG.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields

EPA Region 6 Brownfields Team

214-665-2180

<http://www.epa.gov/region6/brownfields/>

Grant Recipient: Association of South Central Oklahoma Governments
580-252-0595

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, the activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

would allow completion of site assessment and reuse planning activities, which are expected to attract new industry, and ultimately, create jobs, improve the communities' appearance, and increase the local tax base that is key to the survival of small rural communities. The sites will be redeveloped for greenspace, recreational facilities, industrial uses, community centers, and senior citizens' centers.